Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims set forth below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) Dermal application system, which is a self-adhesive matrix system, ~~characterised in that the~~ comprising ALA derivative crystals suspended in a polymer matrix ~~contains an ALA derivative~~, wherein the ALA derivative ~~is a crystalline~~ crystals are an aminolaevulinic acid salt or ~~a crystalline~~ an aminolaevulinic acid ester or a salt thereof, wherein the crystals of the ALA derivative have a ~~size of less than approximately (mean)~~ mean diameter of 20 μm to 200 μm.

2. (Currently amended) Application system according to claim 1, characterised in that the polymer ~~system~~ matrix is water-permeable.

3. (Currently amended) Application system according to claim 1 or 2 ~~claims 1 and 2~~, characterised in that the polymer matrix is selected from polymers from the group consisting of

a) acrylates,
b) silicon polymers and
c) polyisobutylene.

4. (Currently amended) Application system according to ~~claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, characterised in that the crystals of the ALA derivative have a ~~(mean)~~ mean diameter of 30 μm to 190 μm.

5. (Currently amended) Application system according to claim 4, characterised in that the crystals of the ALA derivative have a ~~(mean)~~ mean diameter of 90 μm to 160 μm.

6. (Currently amended) Application system according to ~~claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, characterised in that the aminolaevulinic acid derivative is present in a concentration of 1 to 50 wt. % relative to the ~~finished~~ polymer matrix.

7. (Currently amended) Application system according to ~~claims 1 to 6~~claim 4, characterised in that ~~the crystals of the ALA derivative have a diameter of 30 to 190 μm and~~ the polymer matrix

consists of ~~Eudragit~~Eudragit® NE (NE) (ethyl acrylate-methyl methacrylate-copolymerisate) and acetyl tributyl citrate (ATBC) in the weight ratio NE/ATBC of 1:0.5 to 1:2.5, wherein the aminolaevulinic acid derivative is present in a concentration of 1 to 50 wt. % relative to the ~~finished~~ polymer matrix.

8. (Original) Application system according to claim 7, characterised in that the crystals of the ALA derivative have a diameter of 90 to 160 µm.

9. (Currently amended) Application system according to ~~claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, characterised in that it releases at least 30% of the ALA derivative within 30 minutes.

10. (Currently amended) Application system according to ~~claims 1 to 9~~claim 1, characterised in that the ALA derivative is a compound of the general formula ~~$R^2{}_2N\text{-}CH_2COCH_2COOR^1$~~ $R^2{}_2N\text{-}CH_2COCH_2\text{-}CH_2CO\text{-}OR^1$, wherein R^1 is an alkyl residue, which is optionally substituted by a hydroxy, alkoxy, alkyloxy, alkoxycarbonyloxy, amino, aryl, oxo, or fluoro group and optionally interrupted by oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, or phosphorous atoms, and each of R^2 independently from one another represents a hydrogen atom or a group like R^1, or a salt thereof.

11. (Original) Application system according to claim 10, characterised in that the aryl group is a phenyl residue or a monocyclic 5 to 7 membered heteroaromatic residue.

12. (Original) Application system according to claim 10 or 11, characterised in that R^1 is an unsubstituted alkyl group.

13. (Currently amended) Application system according to ~~claims 10 to 12~~claim 10, characterised in that the alkyl group has 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

14. (Currently amended) Application system according to ~~claims 10 to 13~~claim 10, characterised in that the ALA derivative is 5-amino levulinic acid methyl ester, 5-amino levulinic acid ethyl ester, 5-amino levulinic acid propyl ester, 5-amino levulinic acid butyl ester, 5-amino levulinic acid pentyl ester, 5-amino levulinic acid hexyl ester, 5-amino levulinic acid heptyl ester, 5-amino levulinic acid octyl ester, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (Withdrawn) Application system according to ~~claims 10 to 14~~claim 10, characterised in that the ALA derivative is a mixture of different ALA derivatives.

16. (Withdrawn) Application system according to ~~claims 1 to 15~~claim 1, characterised in that it further contains crystallinic aminolevulinic acid (ALA).

17. (Withdrawn) Application system according to claim 16, characterised in that the ALA crystals have a (mean) diameter of 30 to 190 µm.

18. (Withdrawn) Application system according to claim 17, characterised in that the ALA crystals have a (mean) diameter of 90 µm to 160 µm.

19. (Withdrawn) A method ~~Method~~ for preparation of the application system according to ~~claims 1 to 18~~claim 1, characterised in that freeze-dried ~~Eudragit~~Eudragit® NE (NE) (ethyl acrylate-methyl methacrylate-copolymerisate) with acetyl tributyl citrate (ATBC) is dissolved in acetone, in the NE/ATBC ratio of 1:0.5 to 1:2.5, after which ground ALA derivative in the particle size range of less than approximately 200 µm is dispersed in the acetone solution and the dispersion thus obtained is drawn to produce a thin film on a cover foil, and dried for 45 minutes at 60°C.

20. (Withdrawn) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 19, characterised in that a mixture of different ALA derivatives, or a mixture of one or several ALA derivatives with ALA, is used instead of one ALA derivative.

21. (Withdrawn) A method for photodynamic therapy and/or diagnosis of pre-cancerogenic and carcinogenic lesions of the skin, comprising applying the ~~Use of an~~ application system according to ~~claims 1 to 18~~claim 1 to the skin of a subject and irradiating the skin~~in photodynamic therapy and/or diagnosis of pre-cancerogenic and carcinogenic lesions of the skin~~.

22. (Withdrawn) ~~Use of an application system according to claims 1 to 21 in photodynamic therapy and/or diagnosis of basaliomas~~The method of claim 21, wherein the skin lesion is a basiloma.